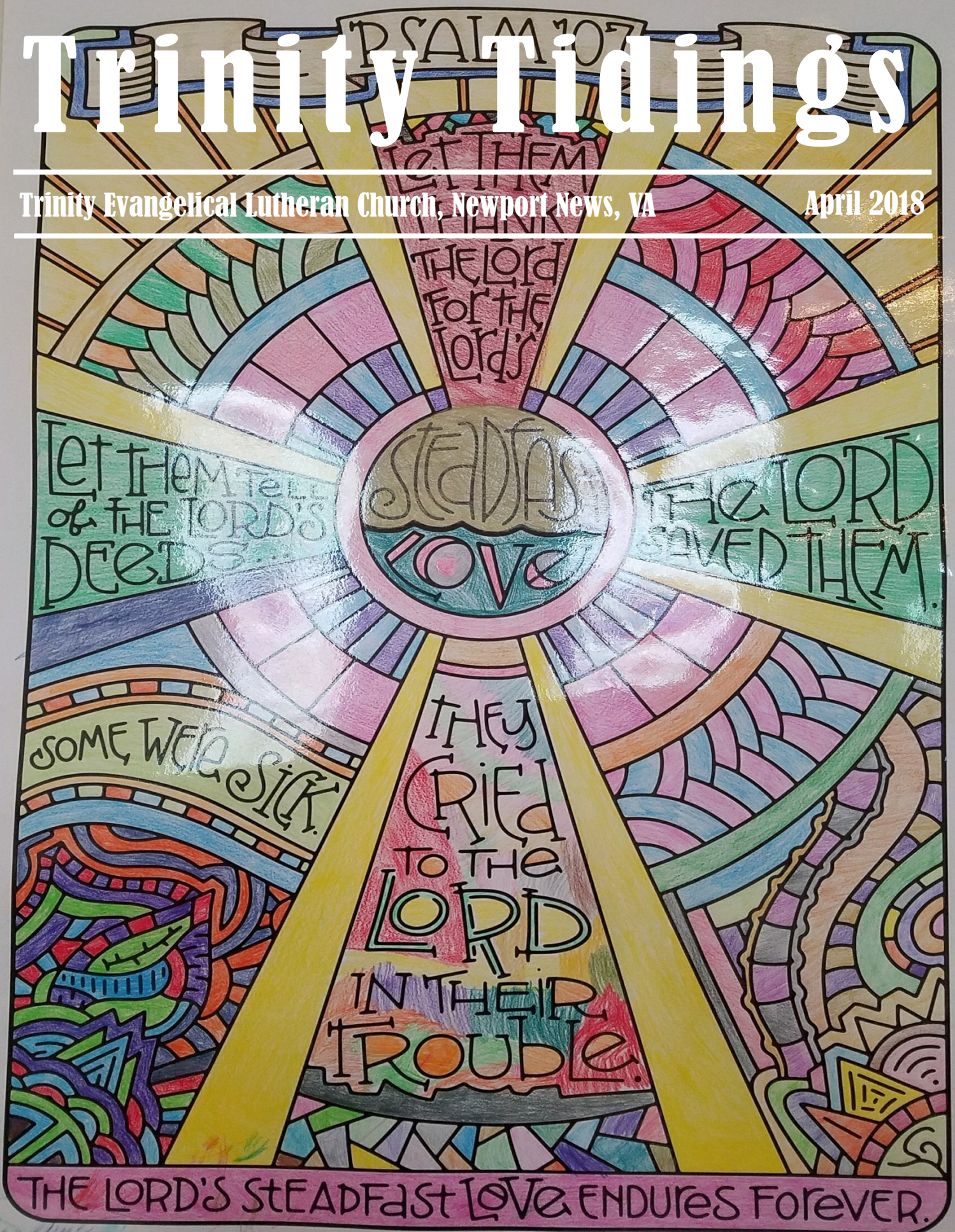


Trinity Tidings

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newport News, VA

April 2018



From the Pastor's Desk . . .

I'm not sure how much we think about it, the Sabbath, and even if we do think about it, I'm not sure how much we think about it as a *gift*. The command to "remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy," wasn't just some random idea from God to the Israelites because God wanted to keep their worship life in rhythm. I mean, that was *part* of it, but it wasn't all of it. For a newly formed community that is now wandering in the wilderness for an undisclosed number of years, God does try to give them some guidelines to keep their lives, particularly their religious life, in rhythm. Calling them to take intentional time for worship would help them find a schedule, a pattern to living, it would help them feel like a *people, God's people* in particular. Yet, it was so much more than that, if it wasn't God wouldn't have gone on and on and on about all the people and creatures that were to participate in the Sabbath. God says that this isn't just a day for the Israelites, it's a day for their livestock, for every member of their households, for children, for *every living creature*, a day set aside for worship and...for rest.

In today's go, go, go world, that very word, rest, is almost laughable. Who has time to *rest* anymore? There's always *something* to do, somewhere to be, how on earth do you find time to rest? There is no room in my iPhone calendar for rest. I'm booked up from here until Christmas, I'll sleep then, but probably not. We have become a distinctly anti-Sabbath culture. It's gotten so bad apparently that before I left for the office this morning, there was a story on the news about a New York congressman proposing a bill that would make it illegal to answer work emails or for bosses to call their employees outside of work hours. That's the point we're at... we need to make working at certain hours against the law so that people can take a deep breath and rest. Sure on the face of it, you read something like that and you laugh and think *this is crazy*, but then if you really thought about your day, your life...what would it look like if we stopped for a few hours every night or even a few hours *a week* and just sabbathed? My

The Art of the Sabbath

guess is, for a few days we'd be a bit more stressed because we'd spend all that time thinking WHAT COULD I BE DOING IF I WASN'T RESTING?! But then I think we might find the solace and the peace God was intending when this was first made a commandment. We might find God, we might find each other, we might find life renewed.

So, my dear siblings in Christ, I issue you a challenge for this Easter season...take the Sabbath seriously. Find some time for *you*, for you and God, in whatever way, shape, or form that you need, and it doesn't just have to be on Sunday! Just find some time. Make sabbathing an art this Easter season. I don't know about you, but Lent was a lot this year. It was heavy and busy and a bit chaotic and I am ready for Easter. I am ready for a season of new life, of peace, of breathing in (hopefully) warmer air and giving thanks for the day that the Lord has made. Easter is a season we need, as a reminder of the amazing gift of life with God, as a reminder of the amazing gift of life with our families and our friends, as a reminder of the amazing gift of *life*. Maybe you make it a family adventure, to pick one thing a week that you're going to do to Sabbath. It can be as simple as you're going to have a no technology night, pop some popcorn and watch a movie. Maybe you take the dog on an extended walk together. Maybe you all go to Barnes and Noble and pick out a new book to enjoy together. Maybe you pick a day to call a family member who is out of town and really talk with them. It could be any number of things, and it can look however you want, that is the joy of the Sabbath after all, that it looks like whatever it takes for you to reconnect with God, your breath, and your life for a time. It is a gift, this Sabbath thing that we've been given, and while it might not fit inside any Easter baskets, it's still pretty miraculous.

Enjoy this time dear hearts, it is God given and it is precious. Rest, breathe, take your time, God's by your side for the journey.

*Peace it Together,
Pastor Tina*

Announcements

Forwarding Faith Starts April 8th!



The Forwarding Faith campaign is an effort put forth by the Virginia Synod to seek to support and fully fund our children's and youth ministry long into the future. As many of you know, the Virginia Synod is known around the ELCA for its children and youth programs and this is an effort to make sure that we continue that tradition of excellence in laying the foundation for the future of the church. Starting April 8th, we will hear a series of temple talks about Forwarding Faith, as well as hearing stories from those who have been impacted by these programs in real and vital ways. Because of this worship will look a little different, in that, for these six weeks, the announcements will come at the **beginning** of worship to allow the regular announcement time to be available for these talks. If you have any questions about Forwarding Faith please contact Pastor Tina or Todd Recuperero

Open for Prayer Returns



As we enter the Easter season together, Pastor Tina will once again be holding open office hours at coffee shops around the Peninsula. Each

week a new date and location will be announced, so be sure to watch the announcement bulletin and your email!

Confirmation Crosses



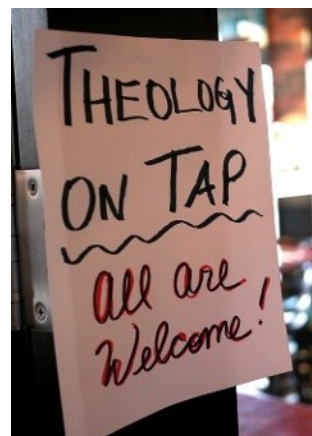
Around the sanctuary for the Easter season you will see different, unique crosses highlighting the sanctuary windows. These crosses were made by the Confirmation class as their spring project. They were encouraged to make a cross that represented their faith and how different parts of their lives are influenced by their faith. There are note cards with each to provide explanation. Please enjoy and uplift our Confirmation students in this display of their faith.

Buckets for Books!



Bring your change to church on Sunday, April 15th! The youth group will be doing a "noisy offering" to raise money to purchase books for children and youth in Houston as part of the various service projects associated with the National Youth Gathering.

Theology on Tap:



We will not meet in March due to the Easter season being under way. The next Theology on Tap will be April 26th.. We meet at 6:30 PM to come together for a time of casual and open conversation about faith, theology, life in the church, and how we live as Christians in the world. All

are welcome!

Trinity Reformation Celebration Music Event



Trinity's year-long celebration of the Lutheran Reformation's 500th anniversary continues on the morning of Sunday, April 22nd. Dr. Jacquelyn Matava will visit to perform Bach's *Gott soll allein mein Herze haben*, BWV 169. You may recall soprano Rainelle Krause's visit last spring to sing another of Bach's cantatas, *Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen*, BWV 51. This year's offering differs in instrumentation:

instead of trumpet, you'll hear oboes, English horn, and strings, all from the Virginia Symphony Orchestra. Trinity's chancel choir will participate as well.

Get to know Jackie: Praised for her "warm, soothing legato line", American mezzo-soprano Jacquelyn Matava has performed extensively throughout the United States, and has been heard as a soloist in England, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, and Venezuela.

An accomplished concert artist, Jacquelyn has been heard as a soloist in performances of Bach's Mass in B minor, Duruflé's Requiem, Handel's *Messiah*, Mozart's "Great" Mass in C minor, and Stravinsky's *Les Noces*. In 2014, she performed at the Lucerne Festival in Switzerland under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle. She has sung with the Tanglewood Music Center, Lucerne Festival Academy, Opera San Antonio, Alamo City Opera, Opera Saratoga, San Antonio Choral Society, Bloomington Chamber Singers, IU Summer Music Festival, Columbus Indiana Philharmonic, Danbury Music Centre, Masterworks Chorale (IL), and Hudson Valley BachFest.

Vacation Bible School Registration

Registration is now open for both volunteers and children who want to attend the Hilton Area Church's Vacation Bible School. Visit the following website to sign up. Please sign up early so the folks planning the event are better prepared. Experience the ride of a lifetime with God!

<https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/hiltonchurches2018>



JOIN US
**CINCO
DE DERBY
PARTY**



Go to trinitynn.com and click on
Cinco De Derby Buy Tickets,
and join us for the event.

**SATURDAY
MAY 5, 2018
4-9PM**



Wear your sombrero
and jeans or a derby hat and
fancy dress or come as you are!

**CYPRESS CREEK CLUBHOUSE
604 CYPRESS CREEK PARKWAY
SMITHFIELD, VA**

**Live Auction • Raffles • D.J.
Photo booth • Televised Derby**

**Margaritas • Mint Juleps
Wine • Sangria • Beer
BBQ with a Mexican Twist**

Babysitting Available

Youth Group Activities

Kairos:

If you are a current 8th - 11th grader, you are eligible to attend the VA Synod ELCA week long summer youth event at Roanoke College in Roanoke, VA from July 22 -27. This is a wonderful faith forming opportunity for youth. If you are interested in attending this event, forms are on the youth group bulletin board. Please submit completed forms with full payments (checks written out to Trinity Lutheran Church) by April 1.

Lock In:

Trinity is hosting a joint lock in event for the youth groups of Trinity, St. Paul's, and St. Stephen's Lutheran churches on April 13. This will be a night of fun and games while getting to know the youth of these congregations. All NYG youth are especially encouraged to attend as you can meet the kids and other adults that will be traveling with us to Houston, TX. Remember to bring PJs, sleeping bag, pillow, a snack to share, and a flashlight for Sardines. Sign up on the youth group bulletin board if you can attend.

Palm Sunday Procession and Easter Egg Stuffing



Photos by Michelle Carpenter



Hosanna in the Highest - Celebrating Life in the Church and Getting Ready for Easter.



We are so thankful for our youth and how they contribute to the life of the church!

Easter Sunday Breakfast and Egg Hunt



Photos by Michelle Carpenter





Technically, Moses was the first person with a tablet downloading data from the cloud.



Thank You . . .

1. Thanks to all who provided the soups and salads for our Lenten supper on March 22. The other members of the Hilton Churches were impressed with our varied selections!

2. A special word of thanks to our Director of Music, Rob Keene, to the Chancel Choir, to our guest singers and musicians for the wonderful musical offerings for Good Friday and Easter Sunday, and to generous donors who made them possible. This continuation of our celebration of our Lutheran heritage over the past 500 years highlights the importance of the Lutheran church in the development of church music.

Worship and Music Committee

Attention Scrapbookers!

Join us on Saturday, April 14th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Church social hall. Open to all experienced or beginner Scrapbookers. For more information and to reserve a spot, please call Terri Hoffeditz at (C) 757-871-1182 or (H) 757-766-2646. This is purely scrapbooking with no sales pressures.

Happy Birthday to our Special Senior Saints



April Birthdays

Barbara Gribble 81 April 9
 Darleen Schultz..... 81 April 18



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Upcoming Events

Apr 1	Easter Sunday
Apr 8	Congregation Meeting
Apr 13	Youth Lock In
Apr 14	Scrapbooking
Apr 15	Buckets for Books
Apr 17	Taxes are due
Apr 22	Special Performance
Apr 26	Theology on Tap
May 5	TLS Cinco de Derby
May 31	Theology on Tap



Trinity Cadette Girl Scout Troop 4170 presented Angela York, the Executive Director of Thrive Peninsula, with 110 boxes of Girl Scout cookies at the end of their cookie season. The cookies will be given as a surprise to families receiving services from Thrive Peninsula during the next month. The Cadette Troop comprised of seventh and eighth graders at Trinity Lutheran School and Booker T Washington Middle School is grateful for the support of Trinity Lutheran Church for the past seven years!

A Note from the Treasurer

This is just a reminder to some of our members but may be new information to others.

The purpose of the weekly envelopes is to allow members to faithfully support the work of the church either every week or, for some members, every month or even yearly. It is a way of encouraging members to prayerfully consider the ways they faithfully and *regularly* support the church through their “treasure” as well as through their time and talents. These gifts to the general fund allow the church to support our outreach ministries, pay our bills and also contribute to the missions of the Virginia Synod and the national church.

The weekly envelope also has a space for special gifts that members may wish to occasionally support, such as World Hunger, the church scholarship program, Trinity School, National Youth Gathering, PORT, etc. Any special gifts such as these would normally be made *in addition* to the regular donation to the general fund.

It is fun and exciting for members to help support the special programs of the church, but please remember to do so *in addition* to your faithful support of the general fund!

Thank you!
The Treasurer



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

6812 River Road, Newport News, Virginia 23607

Phone: (757) 245-7861



Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship: 8:15 A.M. and 10:45 A.M.

Faith Walk (Sunday School) Between Services: 9:30 A.M.

Holy Communion is celebrated weekly

A Nursery is Provided during worship

Contact Information

Pastor: The Rev. Tina Melusky (tina.melusky@gmail.com)

Organist and Director of Music: Rob Keene (music@trinitynn.org)

Administrative Assistant: Anne Obara (admin@trinitynn.org)

Treasurer: Carol Bessom (cbessom@trinitynn.com)

Website: <http://www.trinitylutheran-nn.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TrinityNN/>

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Virginia Synod

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is a covenant partner with:

*Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, Habitat for Humanity, Newport News Link,
and Thrive Peninsula (formerly Denbigh United Christian Outreach).*

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation.